

MINDUTE ITEM

3/25/76
LFW

23. COLORADO RIVER AREA PROJECT BOUNDARY STUDY - W 20693.1.
Calendar Item 23 was withdrawn from the agenda pursuant to a
request by the Office of the Attorney General.

Attachment:
Calendar Item 23 (2 pages)

COLORADO RIVER AREA PROJECT BOUNDARY STUDY

The Davis Lake area project encompasses a former channel of the Colorado River, 11.3 miles long, located 20 miles downstream from Blythe. The northerly 2.7 miles of the channel was separated from the main river as a result of the 1947 pilot cut made by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The southerly 8.6 miles of channel was separated from the river as a result of the 1968 Cibola Cut. Most of the cut-off channel is presently a back water area into which the main Palo Verde Valley Irrigation District drainage canal discharges.

The Colorado River is one of the areas identified for boundary determination projects in the State Lands Division budget. The Davis Lake area was selected as the first of several areas along the river for a study of State ownership and boundary problems. Ownership determination is needed in this area before such additional problems as commercial recreation control and environmental protection can be considered.

The Davis Lake Area Project Boundary study, submitted for Commission consideration, is the result of staff investigation which concluded that the State of California owns the westerly half of the cut-off channel of the Colorado River in the subject area. A field survey was made, and maps drawn which will be submitted to the State Lands Commission at a later date.

In January, a letter was sent to Arizona Governor, Raul Castro, advising him of the agency's work on the Colorado River, and suggesting that Arizona's concurrence with and participation in the ownership determination would be advantageous to the people of both states. Response from Governor Castro indicates that the matter is under review.

EXHIBIT: A. Site Map.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. RECEIVE FOR CONSIDERATION THE DAVIS LAKE AREA PROJECT BOUNDARY STUDY.
2. AUTHORIZE THE STAFF TO PROVIDE COPIES OF THE REPORT TO THE ARIZONA STATE LANDS COMMISSION, TO THE COUNTY OF IMPERIAL, TO THE U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, TO THE U.S. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, AND TO OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.
3. AUTHORIZE THE STAFF TO PREPARE CLAIM MAPS.

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CALENDAR ITEM NO. 23 (CON'TD)

4. AUTHORIZE THE STAFF TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA AND TO ENCOURAGE THEIR CONCURRENCE AND PARTICIPATION IN THIS AND FUTURE PROJECTS.